उठाया गया था। चीन की ओर से यह बात व्यक्त की गई कि तिब्बत स्वायत्त क्षेत्र (टी ए आर) में संबंधित प्राधिकारियों से परामर्श किया गया है जिसके अनुसार उस क्षेत्र में अतिरिक्त मार्ग बनाए जाने में कठिनाई होगी क्योंकि वह क्षेत्र संवदेनशील और अर्ध-विकसित है। चीनी दल का यह भी विचार था कि प्रस्तावित मार्ग लम्बा होने के साथ-साथ सड़क, संचार, आवास और अन्य अवसंरचनात्मक-सुविधाओं से भी वंचित रहेगा।

Development of places of tourist interest in U.P.

770. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to develop places of tourist interest in Uttar Pradesh during the current year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the names of such places which are to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) The formulation of plans for the development of tourism in any particular State is the responsibility of the State Government. The Department of Tourism provides financial assistance for the implementation of specific projects on the basis of proposals received from them and the merits of each case. For the year 1997-98, the Department of Tourism, Government of India has prioritised 21 projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 412.50 lakhs for financial assistance to the State Government. These projects are located at Agra, Dudhva, Fatehpur, Haridwar, Etah, Kushinagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lucknow, Mathura, Pipalwaha, Rishikesh, Sarnath, Vrindavan, Uttarkashi and Auli.

Financial Assistance for Durga Puja in West Bengal

771. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national festival of West Bengal 'Durga Puja' is on the identified list of fairs and festivals of Department of Tourism;

(b) if so, the amount of central financial assistance extended for publicity of Durga Puja; and

(c) if not, what is the criteria adopted for Central financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central financial assistance is provided on the basis of examination of specific proposals received from various State Governments. No proposal for central assistance for publicity of Durga Puja was received.

Plans of tourists interest in Orissa

772. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK. Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places of tourist interest in Orissa which are visited by foreign tourists;

(b) the steps taken to assist the State Government to develop the infrastructure for the foreign tourists in those places of tourist interest;

(c) the schemes/programmes proposed thereon for Ninth Plan; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) The places of tourist interest in Orissa which are popular with foreign tourists are:—Bhubaneswar,